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Identical letters dated 16 June 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Today, a heinous terror attack unfolded in Jerusalem. Three Palestinian terrorists armed with an automatic rifle and knives travelled to the Old City of Jerusalem with the intention of unleashing carnage. Standing in two different locations 100 metres apart, outside the Damascus Gate, they sought to maximize the casualties of their attack.

Thanks to the vigilance of the Israeli police officers at the scene, the attackers were neutralized and a larger-scale terror attack was prevented. In the ensuing confrontation, Hadas Malka, a 22-year-old policewoman, was stabbed to death by the terrorists.

Like in so many of the recent terror attacks against innocent people throughout the world, it is clear that this was not a random act of terror. It was a premeditated and coordinated attack that was calculated to cause the greatest damage to as many victims as possible.

These types of heinous attacks do not take place in a vacuum. They are encouraged by the payments made by the Palestinian Authority to terrorists and their families. As I have written to you recently, according to laws and regulations of the Palestinian Authority, every terrorist arrested, tried and imprisoned receives monthly financial payments. If the terrorist is killed while committing the act, his family receives the payments. It is estimated that over seven per cent of the annual budget of the Palestinian Authority is spent on supporting these terrorists.

While the Palestinian leadership pledges their support for peace, they continue to make these monthly payments to terrorists and educate their children to hate. Just today, the Palestinian Authority not only failed to condemn this act of terror, but the official spokesperson for the Fatah faction of Mahmoud Abbas voiced support for the attack and called the action by our police officers a "war crime". It is clear that such actions incentivize terror. The international community must demand that the Palestinians put an end to this despicable policy.

I call upon the Security Council to immediately and unequivocally condemn this horrific terror attack.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Danny **Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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